

## BRETHREN EVANGELIST.

### FROM ROARING SPRING, PA.

Since our last communication, nothing of very special interest has transpired along our line of work. Our third quarterly meetings were held at the close of the old year, at Altoona, on December 31st. The general condition of the church, after an existence of one year, is healthful. Additions have been made steadily during the year, so that the little church in Altoona has passed its first mile-stone with flying colors.

Our quarterly meeting at McKees passed off pleasantly. Some little trouble has existed here for over two years, and for want of *heroic* treatment under its former pastors, it became chronic. After we assumed the pastorate, we gently applied mild remedies, somewhat on the homeopathic line (bread and milk poultices) but it was unavailing. Nothing but an operation seemed inevitable. Drawing the Divine scalpel we operated, and the health of the church now bids fair to improve. The churches over which Brother Smith is pastor, in our county, are, so far as we learn, moving along successfully. The Brethren church received another castigation from a *noisy* man from Indiana a few weeks ago. The religious atmosphere in and around Martinsburg was much disturbed by this *Hoosieristic* son of thunder, or Boanerges, who came away from the State of Indiana to tell the people here that the Brethren church was morally unclean. We have been frequently censured by our German Baptist Brethren for saying hard things about them. We want to bury the hatchet; we do not believe that it is becoming to say hard things about each other, but we want it distinctly understood, that when a man, though he be robed in ministerial garb, comes into the community in which we live, and assails the church in which I am a minister, and deliberately misrepresents it, and attacks the character of my brethren and slings Ecclesiastical mud in our faces, will hear from me. It is simply not only unchristian, but ungentlemanly and unkind, and demonstrates a kind of religious bigotry for which I have no sympathy. This is just what this native of the State of Indiana did, and unless our German Baptist Brethren muzzle such men, we propose to enter the forum and defend the church to which we belong. Our personal manhood grows tired with such stuff, and then when we enter the arena in self-defense, our brethren throw up both hands in holy horror, and exclaim, "You

say hard things about us." Put a stopper into the mouths of such men, and then the strife will cease. "So far as lieth in you, be at peace with all men," says St. Paul. He knew very well that there were some men with whom it is impossible to be at peace, and we have had a practical exemplification of such a man, and we want no more of it.

We are well aware that under the editorship of Brother Harrison the flag of defense was hauled down, peace was declared, but the white flag that was then unfurled has been bespattered, and if the EVANGELIST declines to defend itself against the false attacks of such men, we will seek recourse elsewhere. When the blatant Philistine came forth and defied the armies of Israel he lost his head, and much as we deplore such a state of things and not being the aggressor, we propose to be heard in self-defense. We will defend those whom we know to be good Christian men and women against a religious bigot, who "knows not the *manner of spirit he is of*." I am yours, brother Editor, for peace, but on honorable terms.

Now a word to the ministers of Pennsylvania, as moderator of the past Conference, and to prepare our report intelligently for the coming Conference. Please send us all the items of interest that occurs in your respective parishes, so that we may formulate an interesting report.

The Conference for next year has not yet been located, and under these circumstances we will now offer a suggestion: These Conferences are somewhat a burden to the churches holding them, and as we should "*bear one another's burdens*," we suggest that the churches hereafter holding the Conference, prepare a boarding tent, and charge a reasonable amount for meals—say twenty or twenty-five cents per meal, providing lodging free, and let everybody step up and pay his "quarter," procuring tickets for the term during the Conference, and thus our good sisters, instead of being servants, can attend and enjoy the meetings. Should there be a surplus in the exchequer, let it be turned into the hands of the Board of Missions and expended for the preaching of the Gospel. We have no way of bringing this matter before the Conference now, and therefore, "ex-officio," issue this, our proclamation, and the next Conference will be so held. Signed, sealed and delivered this eleventh day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five. Calls for the Conference are now in order.

We hereby further announce to the pastors and churches throughout Pennsylvania, that Elder John G. Snider, whose address is Roaring Spring, Blair Co., Pa., is *no more of us*. The reasons, therefore, need not be given, and the Brethren churches of Pennsylvania, will govern themselves accordingly. Having obtained ministerial credentials from the last Conference, subsequent conditions however, demand their revocation, and the same is hereby so declared.

W. L. SPANOGLE.

### FROM FORESTVILLE, VA.

About ten years ago Bro. E. B. Shaver came to this place and preached a few sermons and received four members into the Brethren church, two by relation and two by baptism. Finally he was called to labor among the sinners at another place and then Bro. Joseph Bowman preached for the members at this place a few months, and then Bro. I. D. Bowman came to this place and preached one week and received three more members into the church. There was not regular preaching at this place then. Some times it would go three months from one sermon to another. Then Bro. J. F. Koontz preached several times and received one member into the church. The preaching was moved to Liberty, a free church about three miles from this place, on account of a more suitable house. And about this time Bro. E. B. Shaver came and preached for us again. And since his return the membership has increased enough to hold three communion meetings. We organized a church the twelfth of this month with twenty-six members and have elected Samuel A. Wine, Deacon; Daniel G. Kirby, Secretary; Mary R. Zirkle, Treasurer; Fanny Wine, Assistant Treasurer.

And since the first preaching and up till now two members have left the church. Our nearest minister resides about twenty-two miles from here, and there is a bright prospect for more members at present. The name of our church shall be known as Liberty church. May it grow in grace and number is our prayer.

I remain truly yours in Christ.

Jan. 15.

DANIEL G. KIRBY.

### FROM DAYTON, OHIO.

I take great pleasure in stating that Bro. Simon Mikesell of Troy, Ohio, was unanimously chosen elder of the Dayton Brethren church for the year 1895.

S. KIEHL.